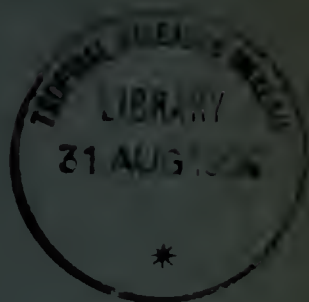


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COUNTY BOROUGH OF ROCHDALE.



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE
HEALTH OF ROCHDALE
AND THE
MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

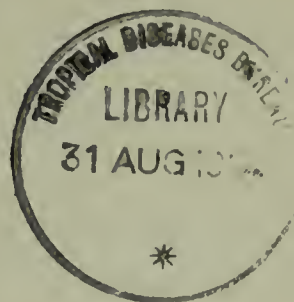
For the Year ended 31st December, 1924.

A. G. ANDERSON, M.D., D.Sc., M.A., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

ROCHDALE:
E. Wrigley & Sons Limited, Printers, Acker Street.

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1925.

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To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Thirteenth Annual Report on the health and sanitary condition of this Borough, with which is incorporated the Report on the Medical Inspection of School Children.

This report has been prepared in accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Health, in the same abbreviated form as the report for 1923, and, like that of the last three years, is in the form of an " Ordinary " Report, as compared with the " Survey " Report, which is called for every five years.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

The Registrar General's estimate of population to the middle of the year 1924 is 92,750, an increase of 40 on the estimate of the previous year.

Births.

During the year 1,451 births—males 740, females 711—were registered, representing a birth-rate of 15.6 per 1,000 of the population, as against 17.2 per 1,000 the previous year.

The average rate for Rochdale during the decennium 1914-1923 was 16.9 per 1,000 of population.

In the 105 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London) of England and Wales the birth-rate during 1924 averaged 19.4 per 1,000, and 18.8 per 1,000 for the whole of England and Wales.

Deaths.

The deaths registered as belonging to Rochdale numbered 1,347—males 681, females 666—as compared with 1,281 deaths during 1923.

The principal causes of deaths registered during 1924 are set out below in comparison with the figures for the previous year :—

	Year 1924	Year 1923
Influenza	76	39
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	70	84
Other Tubercular Diseases	15	29
Cancer	143	126
Organic Heart Disease	123	140
Bronchitis	162	120
Pneumonia	89	94
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	5	15
Nephritis and Brights Disease	44	33
Congenital Debility and Premature Birth	53	52
Old Age	114	128
Diseases of the Nervous System	120	116

The death-rate from all causes was 14.5 per 1,000 of the population, as against 13.8 per 1,000 in 1923, and 15.8 per 1,000 in the year 1922. For the ten years 1914-23 the average death-rate from all causes was 15.7 per 1,000.

Zymotic Diseases.

The deaths from the principal Zymotic Diseases numbered 36, an increase of 7 deaths on the number during the previous year. These 36 deaths were certified as due to the following causes :—Typhoid Fever 1, Measles 18, Scarlet Fever 5; Whooping Cough 6, Diphtheria 1, and Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years) 5. The death-rate from this group of diseases was 0.39 per 1,000, as against 0.31 per 1,000 in the previous year.

Respiratory Diseases.

267 deaths were registered as due to these diseases :—Bronchitis 162, Pneumonia 89, and other Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) 16. The death-rate was 2.88 per 1,000, and slightly higher than the rate for 1923 (2.46 per 1,000).

Tuberculosis.

This disease caused 85 deaths—70 Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and 15 other forms of Tuberculosis—equal to a death-rate of 0.92 per 1,000, as against 1.22 per 1,000 last year (113 deaths).

Infantile Mortality.

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age recorded during 1924 was 113, representing 8.4 per cent. of the total deaths at all ages.

The chief causes of death include :—Congenital Debility and Premature Birth (37), Malformation (14), Pneumonia (13), Bronchitis (10), Digestive Diseases (7), making a total of 81 or 72 per cent. of the total infant deaths.

51 of the deaths under this head occurred before the child reached the age of four weeks, and 22 others before reaching the age of three months.

Calculated per 1,000 births registered the infant mortality rate was 78, as compared with 76 the previous year, and 97 per 1,000 during 1922.

The age distribution and causes of infant deaths during 1924 are shown in Table II., appendix, page 40.

Comparative Mortality.

The summary below provides some comparative data as to birth-rate and mortality in groups of towns during 1924, as extracted from the Report of the Registrar General.

	Birth-rate per 1,000 total population	Death-rate per 1,000 total population	Infantile Mortality per 1,000 births
England and Wales ...	18.8	12.2	75
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, in- cluding London ...	19.4	12.3	80
ROCHDALE	15.6	14.5	78

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following diseases are compulsorily notifiable in Rochdale :—

Scarlet Fever	Cerebro-spinal Fever
Diphtheria and	Acute Poliomyelitis
Membranous Croup	Pulmonary Tuberculosis
Enteric Fever	Other Forms of Tuberculosis
Puerperal Fever	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Cholera	Dysentery
Erysipelas	Trench Fever
Small-pox	Malaria
Typhus Fever	Acute Primary Pneumonia
Relapsing Fever	Acute Influenzal Pneumonia
Continued Fever	Encephalitis Lethargica
Plague	Acute Polio-Encephalitis

1,744 cases of infectious disease were notified during the year, or over 600 more cases than in the year 1923, chiefly due to an outbreak of Measles during June and July. Castleton West and Spotland West Wards had the largest number of cases with 142 and 131 respectively. The other wards were about equally affected with the exception of Castleton North with only 16 cases.

The table on page 20 shows the notification of each disease during the year, classified according to age groups ; and a comparative summary of notifications during the past 15 years is given in Table I., appendix, page 39.

From these tables it will be seen that the diseases most prevalent during the year are as shown below :—

Scarlet Fever	..	..	248	..	421 in year 1923
Diphtheria	..	..	77	..	80 ..
Chicken-pox	..	..	300	..	201 ..
Measles	..	..	859	..	88 ..

209 of the 248 cases of Scarlet Fever notified were treated at Marland Hospital.

Isolation Hospital.

446 cases of infectious disease (excluding Tuberculosis) were admitted to Marland Hospital during the year, as against 570 cases in 1923.

The figures for the past year include 154 cases from the neighbouring districts of Middleton, Heywood and from Dearnley Institution. The mortality rate was 3.3 per cent., as against 2.7 per cent. in the previous year. This increase in the mortality rate is due to Encephalitis Lethargica—13 cases were admitted to Hospital during the year, of which six unfortunately proved fatal. Full particulars of cases treated are given in summary below.

Return of Patients for year ending 31st December, 1924. Marland Hospital.

DISEASE	In Hospital on 31st December 1923	Admitted during the Year	Discharged	Died	Remaining in Hospital at end of Year 1924	Average stay in Hospital of Patients Disch'rg'd — Days	Ages of Patients Admitted		
							Under 5 Years	5—15 Years	Above 15 years
Small-pox .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles .. ..	..	4	4	..	..	22.0	3	1	..
Scarlet Fever ..	54	338	296	4	92	51.0	86	210	42
Diphtheria	14	73	78	4	5	36.1	24	33	16
Typhoid Fever ..	5	11	13	1	2	54.5	..	1	10
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	..	13	7	6	..	48.6	1	2	10
Erysipelas .. ..	..	3	3	..	..	13.7	..	..	3
Other Diseases ..	..	4	2	2	..	25.0	2	1	1
Total	73	446	403	17	99	..	116	248	82

Disinfection.

The work done in this connection during the past year is shown below. Articles of clothing suitable for disinfection by steam are dealt with by the Manlove Alliot Disinfector, while for rooms either formalin or sulphur was generally employed.

The nature of the articles disinfected was :—

Beds .. ..	..	475
Mattresses .. ..	..	6
Bolsters and pillows .. ..	..	1445
Sheets and quilts .. ..	..	1073
Blankets .. ..	..	1165
Miscellaneous .. ..	..	2441
(Carpets, Rugs, Underclothing, &c.)		

TOTAL ..	6605
----------	------

Rooms fumigated or sprayed :—

After Tuberculosis	150
After Other Infectious Disease—Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, &c.	630
TOTAL ..	780

Six schools were also fumigated or sprayed with disinfectant on account of infectious disease.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Incidence.

The notifications of this disease numbered 111, pulmonary 76, and non-pulmonary 35, a decrease of 69 on the figures of 1923.

The figures for the past three years show a considerable decrease and below the average, as will be seen from the following statement of notifications each year since compulsory notification came into operation.

Year	Total Notifications		Total
	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other Forms	
1913	195	164	359
1914	188	91	279
1915	168	140	308
1916	200	89	289
1917	167	59	226
1918	208	65	273
1919	381	63	444
1920	192	45	237
1921	191	34	225
1922	108	51	159
1923	125	55	180
1924	76	35	111

The age and sex distribution of cases notified and deaths from tuberculosis during 1924 are shown in Tables, pages 19 and 20.

Dispensary.

These premises are centrally situated in Elliott Street, off Yorkshire Street. Four clinics have been held each week during the year. The hours of attendances are :—

Monday and Friday ..	9-30 to 11-30 a.m.
Tuesday	5-30 to 7-30 p.m.
Wednesday	2-30 to 4-0 p.m.

The Tuesday evening session provides an opportunity of attending to those who are at work during the day, and to school children, whilst the Wednesday afternoon session caters for women employed in domestic duties, and for children under school age.

The number of new cases examined by the Tuberculosis Officer at the Dispensary was 211, 116 males and 95 females, as against 205 the previous year, as below :—

	Males	Females	Total
Insured (National Insurance Act) ..	73	62	135
Uninsured	43	33	76
TOTALS ..	116	95	211

The new cases reported at the Dispensary during the past four years, 1920-24, averaged 219.

The method of introduction to the Dispensary of the 211 new cases may be summarised thus :—

	Males	Females	Total
Referred by General Practitioners or School Medical Officer	85	58	143
Referred by Pensions Medical Board or Committee	*3	—	3
Examined as Contacts	28	37	65
TOTALS ..	116	95	211

* In addition to the 3 ex-service men referred to the Tuberculosis Officer by the Pensions Authorities, 48 ex-service men reported in previous years were re-examined at regular intervals. The number of medical examinations was actually 101.

The result of the examination of the 211 new cases during 1924 may be classified as follows :—

	Males	Females	Total	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis—				
Stage I.	19	12	31	or 47.0%—(48.1% last year)
Stage II.	10	11	21	or 31.8%—(36.3% last year)
Stage III.	8	6	14	or 21.2%—(15.6% last year)
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4	9	13	
	41	38	79	or 37.4%—(43.0% last year)
Diagnosed as Non-Tubercular	75	57	132	
TOTALS ..	116	95	211	

It will be observed that of the number of persons examined by the Tuberculosis Officer, 37.4 per cent. were diagnosed as suffering from Tuberculosis, as against 43.0 per cent. during 1923.

2,869 attendances at the Dispensary were made by patients, and 2,658 of this number were made by former patients for re-examination and advice, giving an average attendance per clinic of 29.5—the highest number attending any one clinic during the year was 31.

Several minor cases of surgical tuberculosis have received a limited course of treatment, in so far as such treatment can be given at a Tuberculosis Dispensary, and no less than 1,294 dressings have been carried out ; in addition to a number of injections of tuberculin, etc.

Included in the above figures are 75 contact cases examined by the Tuberculosis Officer and classified as follows :—

Suffering from Tuberculosis	..	..	..	11
Doubtful and for further examination	..	..	..	10
Not Tuberculosis	..	..	..	54

The home visits paid by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor totalled 583, including 43 to the homes of ex-service men ; and 57 visits were also made by the Tuberculosis Officer.

Amongst cases for diagnosis, 15 specimens of blood were examined in suspicious cases of Venereal Disease, all of which were found negative.

Nourishment Grants.

22 patients have received grants of special nourishment in the form of fresh milk for varying periods during the year. These grants were made to patients waiting admission to a residential institution, or places of domiciliary treatment, and certified by the Tuberculosis Officer.

Residential Treatment.

The following accommodation is at present available for persons suffering from tuberculosis and residing in Rochdale :..

Wolstenholme Hall	..	..	..	..	30 beds (males only)
Marland	..	..	..	..	12 beds

On January 1st, 1924, there were 38 Borough patients in residence, and during the year 77 other patients were admitted from Rochdale—49 females and 28 males. 59 were discharged during this period, and 10 deaths were recorded, leaving 46 undergoing treatment at the end of the year, as shown in the following summary :—

Institutions	In Hospital or Sanatorium on 31st Dec., 1923	Admission			Discharged during 1924	Died	Remaining in Hospital at end of year	Average stay in Hospital of Patients disch'g'd — Months
		Total	Males	Females				
Marland Tuberculosis Hospital	11	32	...	32	25	4	14	4.0
Wolstenholme Hall ...	15	24	..	...	16	2	21	9.6
Morton Banks Sanatorium, Keighley	2	10	...	10	8	2	2	3.0
Stannington Sanatm.	9	10	3	7	8	2	9	9.5
National Sanatorium, Benenden ..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	14.0
TOTAL ...	38	77	28	49	59	10	46	...

In addition to the Borough patients treated at the two local institutions, 71 were admitted from the area of the Lancashire County :—52 Wolstenholme Hall and 19 Marland Hospital.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Inspection of Midwives.

38 Midwives gave notice of intention to practice in this Borough during 1924. 50 visits of inspection were made to Midwives during this period, and the Medical Officers paid special visits where necessary.

4 Midwives were temporarily suspended from practice on account of Puerperal Fever or other infectious disease, for purpose of disinfection of appliances, clothing, &c. Otherwise no serious irregularities or neglect of duties by any Midwife were reported.

Health Visitors.

Five Health Visitors are employed, and during the year 17,660 visits were made by these Officers, chiefly to homes where there are infants and young children. Infants are visited as soon as possible after notification of birth. Advice, verbal and by printed leaflet, is given in all cases where a medical practitioner is not in attendance, and the infants are re-visited when necessary up to the age of five years.

The summary below gives the particulars of the visits paid by the Health Visitors during the past year.

Classification of Visits, Year 1924								No. of Visits
Primary Visits to Births notified (or otherwise reported)	...	...						1,527
Subsequent Visits re Infants under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,610
Subsequent Visits re Infants and Young Children 1—5 years	...							7,783
Ante-natal Cases—								
Primary Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Subsequent Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Infant Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	90
Infectious Disease—								
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Whooping Cough, Measles, Diarrhœa, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	110
Midwives	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Milk Distribution Scheme	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
Miscellaneous—								
Enquiries re Syke and St. Annes Home	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Enquiries re Medical and Midwifery Fees, Home Helps	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Springfield Hospital, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	126
Sanitary Defects reported to Sanitary Inspector	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Unsuccessful Visits (house closed or occupier out)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1149
TOTAL								17,660

Child Welfare Centres.

The work of the Child Welfare Centres has been conducted on the lines as set out in previous reports. Unemployment is still very prevalent, and consequently the distribution of free milk and the supervision of cases has occupied a great proportion of time at the Centres.

The Health Committee are again indebted to the members of the Ladies' Committee and to other voluntary workers for their valuable assistance at the Centres and in many other directions during the year.

Four Clinics with five sessions are still held each week in different districts of the Town. The attendances of mothers and children up to five years of age are shown in summary below :—

Centre	New Cases Admitted during 1924	Total Attendance		Average Attendance per Clinic Day	No. of Infants examined by M.O.
		Children under 1 yr.	Children 1—5 years		
(a) Milton (Ward'w'th)	173	2,329	895	67 (64)*	769
(b) St. Luke's ...	211	3,307	774	86 (66)	921
(c) Mitchell Street ...	160	2,067	726	57 (47)	678
(d) Milton (Castleton)	161	2,365	1,023	69 (61)	924
(e) Castleton Moor ...	102	1,491	234	37 (37)	565
TOTALS	807	11,559	3,652	...	3,857

* Figures in brackets represent the average attendance, year 1923.

Compared with the figures of 1923 the average attendance per clinic day has again improved, particularly at Milton and St. Luke's Clinics.

Maternity Outfits.

Under the arrangements for the loaning out to poor families of maternity bags containing the necessary underclothing, linen, etc., for use at time of confinement, 21 bags have been distributed from the Town Hall on loan for a period of one month. On their return the contents of each bag was thoroughly disinfected and sent to the laundry before re-issue.

Medical Aid.

368 notifications were received from Midwives of sending for medical help in maternity cases, in accordance with the regulations of the Central Midwives Board. This figure includes 321 notifications relating to abnormal conditions in the mother—Obstructed Labour 106, Delayed Labour 68, Ruptured Perineum 66, and other conditions 81.

Midwifery and Doctors' Fees.

53 applications or claims by Medical Practitioners in accordance with the Midwives Act, 1910, for payment of medical fees in respect of attendance in maternity cases were received during the year, or 30 less than during 1923.

The family circumstances in each case were fully investigated and reported to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee with the following results:—

No. of Medical Fees paid by Local Supervising Authority	..	53
Gross amount paid by Local Supervising Authority	..	£87 2 0
No. of Medical Fees, or part thereof reclaimed from Patient	..	21
Amount reclaimed from Patient	.. .. .	£26 1 6
Claims cancelled or disallowed	.. .. .	.. 17

In 21 necessitous cases the midwifery fee was paid to the midwife in attendance.

Milk and Food Assistance Scheme.

The present scheme provides for the distribution of milk to expectant and nursing mothers and to children under three years of age, and in exceptional cases to children between three and five years of age, at cost price, or below cost price, or free in necessitous cases ; and also for dinners to expectant and nursing mothers. Applications for a free supply of milk or free dinners are considered by the Milk Sectional Committee at convenient intervals.

During the year nearly 11 tons 11 cwts. of dried milk, such as Glaxo, Ambrosia, Cow and Gate milk foods were distributed from the Infant Welfare Centres ; of this quantity over 2½ tons were distributed free to 180 necessitous families, while over 1,543 gallons of fresh milk were supplied free to 114 necessitous families.

The following table shows the amount distributed under the respective heads along with cost of same in comparison with the corresponding figures of 1923 :—

Food	Quantities Supplied			Cost of Food	
	At Cost Price	Free of Cost		Distributed Free of Cost	Distributed at Cost Price
	Quantity	No. of Cases	Quantity Quarts		
Fresh Milk ...	...	114 *(124)	6,171 (8,014)	£ s. d. 168 14 7 (222 4 4)	£ s. d. ...
Dried Milk (Glaxo Ambrosia and Cow and Gate)	1 lb. Pkts. 20,160 (17,302)	180 (209)	1 lb. Pkts. 5,715 (6,094)	390 16 8 (473 5 5)	1,736 7 1 (1,344 18 6)

* The figures for the year 1923 are shown in brackets.

Notification of Births Act, 1907.

1,314 notifications were received—1,210 from Midwives, 96 from Medical Practitioners, and 8 from Parents. About 16 per cent. of the births were unnotified ; these chiefly occurred in public institutions.

Springfield Maternity and Children's Hospital.

Summary of Patients treated.						
	In Hospital Jan. 1st, 1924	Admitted during 1924	Discharged during 1924	Died	In Hospital Dec. 31st, 1924	Average duration of Stay
Adults	7	164	165	—	6	14.6 days
Children	16	95	84	12	15	59 „

Treatment of Venereal Disease.

3 adults were treated for venereal disease associated with pregnancy and parturition—2 for syphilis and 1 for gonorrhoea. All three had healthy babies. One mother was admitted with her baby who was suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum. The mother was treated for gonorrhoeal cervicitis, and continues treatment as an out-patient at the V.D. Clinic. The baby's eyes were completely cured.

Five babies have received treatment for Congenital Syphilis during the year, including two remaining over from 1923. Of these two have since died, one has now fairly good health, and two are in good health. Three children were treated for gonorrhoeal valvo-vaginitis—two were cured on discharge, and one was transferred to Birch Hill Hospital on account of desertion by the parents.

All these cases were resident in the Borough of Rochdale, and are shown in summary below.

	Syphilis		Gonorrhoea		Total
	Adults	Children	Adults	Children	
In residence Jan. 1st, 1924 ..	—	2	—	—	2
Admitted during the year ..	2	3	2	4	11
Discharged during the year ..	2	4	2	4	12
Died during the year ..	—	1	—	—	1
Remaining in Hospital Dec. 31st, 1924 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	Nil.

Ante-natal Work.

An Ante-natal Clinic has been held at the Hospital every Monday and Wednesday morning, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. This is very well attended by patients who are intending to come into the Hospital for their confinement, but only very occasionally by any other expectant mothers. There have also been occasional attendances at this clinic of mothers wishing advice in the post-natal period, and of babies born in the Hospital but living in outlying districts, and therefore unable to attend the regular Child Welfare Centres in the Borough of Rochdale.

104 clinics have been held, and there has been a total attendance of 1,014, and an average attendance of 9.7 per clinic.

Midwifery Training.

During the year three nurses obtained the certificate of the Central Midwives Board. A fourth nurse completed her training but did not enter for the examination.

Maternity Department.

Total number of cases admitted	..	..	..	164
Readmissions	..	..	..	6
Total number of cases treated	..	..	..	<u>158</u>

Of these 103 were resident in the Borough of Rochdale, and 55 were from surrounding boroughs or districts. 66 cases were primiparae. The average duration of stay was 14.6 days.

The majority of the women are admitted near the commencement of labour, but, for various reasons, 45 cases were admitted previous to the onset of labour. Of these 23 were admitted for treatment of some definitely pathological condition, and 22 either because they came from some considerable distance or because they particularly requested to be admitted before labour actually commenced. These periods of waiting or of ante-natal treatment varied from one to 36 days.

During the year 151 babies have been born in the institution—79 boys and 72 girls—including three sets of twins. There have been 8 still-births, 1 miscarriage, and 6 babies have died within ten days of birth—making 15 foetal deaths.

As the maternity beds have been kept so well filled this year there has been less opportunity for admitting mothers with their babies in cases where stimulation of the breasts and the promotion of breast-feeding has been the object in view. Only one mother has been admitted with her baby this year for this purpose, and the result to both mother and baby was satisfactory. There is great scope for useful work in this direction, and it would be a great advantage to have a small two-bedded ward reserved for the use of mothers whose breast milk supply is failing. This is so often due to underfeeding, overwork, and worry, and rest and quiet in pleasant surroundings works wonders for the harassed mother and underfed baby, and would frequently prevent the almost inevitable consequence that the mother's milk fails, and the baby has to be bottle fed.

Four mothers admitted for ante-natal treatment had not been confined before the end of the year, and three mothers who received a period of ante-natal treatment did not return for their confinement.

Full particulars of the maternity cases and children treated at Springfield Hospital are given in Table IV., Appendix, pages 42—44.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The Treatment Clinics for this disease are held at the Rochdale Infirmary as below :—

Tuesday—Males	..	..	..	..	3-45 to 5-45 p.m.
Thursday—Males	..	..	..	..	5-0 to 7-0 p.m.
Tuesday—Females	..	..	..	..	9-30 to 11-30 a.m.
Wednesday—Females	..	..	..	..	5-30 to 7-30 p.m.

In addition to these, daily clinics for immediate treatment are held daily at convenient times.

At the commencement of the year there were 149 persons under treatment, and 179 new cases were dealt with during the year. Of this latter number 130 were diagnosed as suffering from Venereal Disease. 22 per cent. of the new cases dealt with were resident in other districts.

The total out-patient attendances was :—

	M.	F.
(a) For individual attention by Medical Officer	1,741 ..	1,037
(b) For intermediate treatment—irrigation, dressings, &c.	2,772 ..	51
Total Attendances ..	4,513 ..	1,088

The following table shows how the cases dealt with at the Rochdale Clinic were disposed of during each of the past three years :—

	Years		
	1922	1923	1924
(1) No. of Persons who were under treatment or observation at the commencement of the year	169	152	149
(2) No. dealt with during the year for the first time (new cases)	164	170	179
(3) No. of Persons who ceased to attend the out-patient clinic—			
(a) Before completing the first course of treatment	25	20	24
(b) After one or more courses, but before completion of treatment ^t	23	25	13
(c) After completion of treatment, but before final tests as to cure ..	36	16	19
(4) No. of Persons transferred to other treatment centres after treatment	17	8	9
(5) No. of Persons discharged—			
(a) After completion of treatment and observation	42	66	107
(b) As non-venereal cases	38	38	47
(6) No. of Persons under treatment or observation at the end of the year	152	149	156

Of the 179 persons dealt with during the year for the first time 140 resided in Rochdale. The corresponding number last year was 126.

There are now 10 private medical practitioners on the " approved " list and entitled to free supplies of Arsenobenzol Compounds from this Department.

Pathological Specimens.

The arrangements with the University of Manchester for the examination of specimens have been continued during the year. 454 specimens have been examined at the University, as against 451 in the previous year ; as shown below :—

				Years	
				1924	1923
From Rochdale Infirmary Clinic	..	..	..	280	319
From Private Practitioners	..	..	..	92	82
From other sources (Hospitals, &c.)	..	..	..	82	50
TOTALS				454	451

128 specimens were also examined at the Treatment Centre by the Medical Officer.

Outfits for this purpose are distributed from the Public Health Department, so also are Arsenobenzol Compounds.

PUBLIC HEALTH PROPAGANDA.

During November of 1924, Health Week was celebrated in Rochdale. The effort was on a large scale and may be briefly summarised under the following headings :—

(a) **Public Lectures** :—Each evening of the week a lecture was given in some district of the town on subjects such as—

Sunlight and Health, by Dr. Leonard E. Hill, London ;

Social Hygiene for Women, by Miss M. Tipper, of Lancashire County Public Health Department ;

Parent and Child, by Dr. J. T. D. Ewart, Manchester ;

Why Babies Die, by Dr. J. T. D. Ewart, Manchester ;

The Beginnings of Disease, by Dr. W. Allen Daley, Blackburn ;

Whatsoever a Man Soweth, by Dr. E. J. S. Reid, Manchester ;

Saving Babies ; a Paying Proposition, by Dr. Eric Pritchard, London ;

The After Care of the Sick Child of School Age, by Councillor M. Bevan, J.P., Liverpool.

In addition to these lectures several short talks on health matters were given at the Art Gallery by members of the Public Health Staff, Local Medical Practitioners and others.

The Adult scholars in the Elementary Schools of the Borough were also given short talks on health, and Church Congregations and Adult Sunday School Classes were addressed on this subject.

(b) **Cinema Films** :—Nine special health films, dealing with Tuberculosis, Milk, Dental Hygiene and Maternity and Child Welfare were freely displayed in the local Cinemas during the week.

(c) **Health and Child Welfare Exhibition** :—The Exhibits by the Central Council for Infant and Child Welfare, London, were loaned and, supplemented by local exhibits on Soot Fall, Gas Cooking and Heating and by Electrical appliances specially suitable for home use, formed an interesting exhibition at the Art Gallery. This Exhibition was open daily to the public.

(d) **Handbook** :—A Handbook specially prepared for Health Week, and containing a full programme of daily events during Health Week, special articles dealing with " Health and Preventive Medicine " ; " The Care of the Teeth," and " Notes on Cancer " ; and also local information as to public health clinics and institutions was printed, and 22,000 were distributed to householders in the Borough.



3.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1924.

Disease	Total Cases Notified													Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.														
	Under I year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	Total		Under I year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	Total		
Small-pox		
Cholera (C) Plague (P)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	I	3	6	II	4	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (incl. Mem. Croup)	I	2	5	4	7	I7	22	I2	6	I	...	...	77	6I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	...	6	II	24	29	9I	65	9	10	2	I	...	248	209	...	...	I	...	I	I	...	...	I	...	I	...
Typhus Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhoid Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	3	2	3	2	...	I2	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	I
Puerperal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	I	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	I
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	2	I	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	I
Poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	I3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Trench Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Enceph. Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	I	2	I	5	...	2	2	I3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Polio Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
† Pneumonia ...	2	2	...	3	4	8	9	3	6	7	8	6	58	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
* Whooping Cough ...	I	...	I	I	I	I8	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	...	I3	9	7	2	...	I	2	...	5	II	2I	I8
* Chicken-pox ...	I	2	...	25	58	203	9	I	I	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
* Measles ...	II	10	19	75	246	484	14	...	...	...	...	...	300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	I	...	...	I	I	2	3	8	29	13	15	3	76	†77	...	5	8	...	4	I	...	...	...	...	...	18
Other Forms Tuberculosis	I	I	I	2	I	I	3	8	10	4	I	2	35	...	I	2	...	...	...	I	2	6	3I	14	14	70
TOTAL ...	3I	24	37	135	347	828	127	46	75	37	40	I7	I744	359	23	22	8	8	2	4	6	7	42	26	38	20			
																										15			

* Not compulsorily notifiable. Information obtained chiefly through Head Teachers of Elementary Schools.

† This number only refers to cases admitted to Institutions under the Local Authorities' Scheme.

‡ The cases notified are Acute Primary and Acute Influenzal Pneumonia, but the deaths include all forms of Pneumonia.

4.—CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

So far as we are aware no special causes of sickness and invalidity occurred in this Borough during the year.

APPENDIX.

1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

AREA	Acres 6,446
POPULATION (1924) (Reg. Genl. Est.)	92,750
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (1921).. .. .	23,399
NUMBER OF FAMILIES OR SEPARATE OCCUPIERS (1921)	23,526
RATEABLE VALUE (1924)	£589,4 ⁵ / ₀
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE (1923-4)—Genl. Purps. Rate	£2,065

2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total	M.	F.	
BIRTHS { Legitimate 1,364 .. 697 667 } Birth-rate (R.G.) 15.6				
{ Illegitimate 87 .. 43 44 }				
DEATHS—1,347				Death-rate (R.G.) 14.5
NUMBER OF WOMEN DYING IN, OR IN CONSEQUENCE OF CHILDBIRTH—				
From Sepsis				1
From Other Causes				2
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE PER 1,000 BIRTHS .				
Legitimate 72 Illegitimate 161 Total ..				78
DEATHS FROM MEASLES (All ages)				18
DEATHS FROM WHOOPING COUGH (All ages)				6
DEATHS FROM DIARRHOEA (under two years of age)				5

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases			Vision un-impaired	Vision impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified	Treated					
	At Home	In Hosp.				
13	13	...	13	...	...	...

Tuberculosis, 1924.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	..
1—5 years ..	2	..	4	1	..	..	2	1
5—10 „ ..	1	1	1	..	1	..	1	..
10—15 „ ..	2	1	1	2	1	..	..	2
15—20 „ ..	3	5	7	1	2	4	1	..
20—25 „ ..	6	7	..	3	7	8	1	1
25—35 „ ..	7	9	2	5	8	8	1	2
35—45 „ ..	11	2	3	1	10	4	..	..
45—55 „ ..	8	2	1	..	7	3	1	..
55—65 „ ..	3	2	..	..	4	..	..	..
65 years and over ..	2	1	1	1	1	..	..	1
TOTAL ..	46	30	21	14	42	28	8	7

There were 13 non-notified fatal cases during 1924. The ratio of non-notified Tuberculosis to total Tuberculosis deaths was 1 in 6. In all cases of non-notification within one month of death a communication is sent to the Medical Practitioner regarding any special circumstances of notification.

5.—SUMMARY (FOR REFERENCE) OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

A.—Professional Nursing in the Home.

(a) **General.**—The general home nursing in the town is carried out by the Staff of the Queen Victoria Jubilee Nurses' Home, which is located at Sparrow Hill, Rochdale. One Matron, one Assistant Matron and eight Trained Nurses form the Staff, and the institution is mainly supported by voluntary subscriptions.

(b) **Infectious Disease.**—In outbreaks of Measles, Whooping Cough and Chicken-pox, where the Local Authority consider home nursing assistance necessary, arrangements are made with the Queen Victoria Jubilee Nursing Home for Nurse to visit the cases along with the Staff of Health Visitors. For such assistance the Local Authority pay the usual scale of charges.

B.—Midwives.

No practicing Midwives are employed or subsidised by the Public Health Authority. 38 Midwives were registered as practicing in the district during 1924.

C.—Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Name and Situation	Provided by
I.—MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS. (CONSULTATION AND TREATMENT).	
(a) St. Luke's Sunday School, Deeplish	Local Authority
(b) United Methodist Sunday School, Mitchell-street	
(c) Milton Sunday School, Smith-street (Castleton) ...	
(d) Milton Sunday School, Smith-street (Wardleworth)	
(e) Castleton Wesleyan School, Castleton	
(f) Ante-Natal Clinic (Springfield Maternity Hospital)	
II.—DAY NURSERIES	Non-provided
III.—SCHOOL CLINICS.—EDUCATION OFFICE, BAILLIE STREET.	
(a) Dental Clinic	Local Authority
(b) Medical Inspection Clinic	
(c) Treatment Clinic	
(d) Eye Clinic	
IV.—TUBERCULOSIS CLINICS. Tuberculosis Dispensary, Elliott-street	Local Authority
V.—VENEREAL DISEASES CLINICS. The Infirmary, Redcross-street	Local Authority

D.—Hospitals Provided by the Local Authority.

	Accommodation
1.—TUBERCULOSIS. Wolstenholme Hall Sanatorium, Norden, nr. Rochdale Marland Hospital, Bolton Road, Rochdale	50 beds for males 22 beds for females
2.—MATERNITY. Springfield Hospital, Bolton Road, Rochdale ...	10 beds with cots
3.—CHILDREN. Springfield Hospital, Bolton-road, Rochdale	20 cots
4.—FEVER. Marland Isolation Hospital, Bolton-road, Rochdale ...	120 beds. Chiefly for Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Typhoid Fever.

E.—Hospitals Subsidised by Local Authority.

1.—TUBERCULOSIS.	
Morton Banks Sanatorium, Keighley	3 beds reserved for Rochdale patients
Stannington Sanatorium, Morpeth	10 beds
2.—SMALL-POX.	
Ainsworth Hospital, Bury	
The Local Authority have an agreement with the Bury and District Joint Hospital Board for the reception and treatment of cases of Small-pox occurring in this Borough, and pay a retaining fee, plus cost of treatment, of any cases which may be sent thereto.	

F.—Other Hospitals available for the District, but not provided or subsidised by the Local Authority.

1.—MATERNITY.	
Birch Hill Hospital, Dearnley, nr. Rochdale (Board of Guardians)	Outside the District
2.—CHILDREN.	
Memorial Home for Crippled Children, Norden, nr. Rochdale (Voluntary Organisation)	ditto
3.—GENERAL.	
The Infirmary, Redcross-street, Rochdale (Voluntary Organisation)	Accommodation— 110 beds 56 for males 34 for females 20 for children
Birch Hill Hospital, Dearnley, nr. Rochdale (Board of Guardians)	Outside the District

G.—Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate Infants and Homeless Children.

The Local Authority have not provided any special institutional accommodation for this Class, but any such mothers, or young children up to the age of five years, are admitted to Springfield Maternity and Children's Hospital if necessary and so far as the limited accommodation will allow.

The Hospitals under the control of the Board of Guardians, situate at Birch Hill, Dearnley, and the Cottage Homes at Middlewood, Wardle, both outside this district, also admit such cases, but to a greater extent than the local authority.

H.—Ambulance Facilities.

- (a) **For Infectious Cases.**—A Motor Ambulance is provided by the Local Authority for the removal of cases of infectious disease, including tuberculosis, to the Isolation Hospital at Marland or the Sanatorium at Norden.
- (b) **For Non-infectious and Accident Cases.**—The Borough Police Department provide both a Horse and Motor Ambulance, which are available by day and night, at the Fire Station for use in cases of accident or sudden illness necessitating removal of sufferer to his home or to the local Infirmary. The Ambulances are also available for conveying private cases to or from Hospitals, etc., at a nominal charge.

6.—LABORATORY WORK.

- (a) **Bacteriological Examinations.**—A Laboratory is available at the Public Health Offices, Town Hall, for all the usual bacteriological examinations necessary for clinical diagnosis. No charge is made for such examinations as concern residents of the Borough.

Outfits for the collection of specimens in cases of suspected Tuberculosis, Diphtheria and Typhoid Fever can be obtained by Medical Practitioners on application at the Public Health Office ; and a written report on the examination is furnished.

During the year 733 specimens were examined, as against 866 in the previous year.

Suspected Disease	Positive	Negative	Doubtful	Total
Diphtheria	93	255	6	354
Typhoid Fever	9	23	—	32
Tuberculosis	61	251	—	312
Miscellaneous	4	3	—	7
TOTALS	167	532	6	705
Blood Counts, Urine, etc.				28
				733

- (b) **Pathological Examinations.**—The Corporation have an arrangement with the Public Health Laboratory, University of Manchester, for the examination of specimens collected from persons suspected as suffering from Venereal Disease, and during the year 454 specimens were examined as against 451 specimens in the preceding year. Outfits for the collection of these specimens are also supplied at the Public Health Office.

(c) **Water and Milk Supply.**—Chemical analysis of samples of water and of milk are made by the Public Analyst at his own laboratory. For full particulars of examinations made during the year see page 33. In the case of a bacteriological examination being necessary samples are usually sent to the Public Health Laboratories, Manchester.

Diphtheria Antitoxin, Botulinus Antitoxin and Meningococcic Serum is distributed from the Public Health Office to Medical Practitioners for use within the Borough.

7.—SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Closet Accommodation.

The present accommodation in the Borough (including Castleton Moor) is as follows :—

Clean Water Closets	..	..	..	..	..	..	12,845
Pail Closets	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,288
Waste Water Closets	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,447
Privy Middens	..	..	..	..	..	..	65

Conversion of Pail Closets and Privy Middens to the Fresh-water Carriage System.

During the year 724 pail closets have been converted to fresh-water closets, and 90 additional water closets have been installed.

The following Table shows the position as regards the conversion work at the end of the year 1924 :—

Period	Number Scheduled and Notice served for Conversion	Water-closets installed			Number of Pail Closets Abolished	Number Work in progress or in hands of Contractor
		Pail Closets Converted	Additional	Total		
To end of 1921...	*5,283	3,127	218	3,345	80	400
To end of 1922...	7,134	4,887	258	5,145	81	51
To end of 1923..	8,893	6,084	286	6,370	87	80
To end of 1924..	9,488	6,808	376	7,184	87	40

* Including Notices re-served after the War.

SEPARATE PAIL-CLOSET CONVERSIONS.

Additional work of reconstruction carried out in connection with Pail Closet Conversion.

Ref. No. in Register	No. of Houses	Particulars of Work
3484-3487 3960-3961	6	Drainage of six houses, reconstructed on modern principles, four manholes constructed ; two pail closet buildings demolished, and two new W.C. buildings erected.
3936	1	Pail closet building demolished and new W.C. building erected ; drainage reconstructed on modern principles.
3930	2	Drainage reconstructed on modern principles.
3649	5	Five pail closet buildings demolished and five new W.C.'s erected in suitable positions ; new coal sheds erected.
3629	6	Three existing pail closets repaired and converted ; one pail closet abolished and W.C. provided in house ; two new W.C.s erected in suitable positions ; portion of drainage reconstructed, manhole and ventilation shaft provided.
3589 3590	2	30ft. new drainage provided with manhole and ventilating shaft.
3331 3332 3333 3334 3335 3336 3337	19	Ten existing pail closets repaired and converted ; nine pail closet buildings pulled down and new W.C.s erected in suitable positions ; rear external wall of four houses pulled down and reconstructed ; drainage reconstructed on modern principles for 13 houses ; two passage drains reconstructed and manholes and ventilation shafts provided.
3309-3312	4	New drainage, together with manholes and ventilation shaft constructed.
20	5	Five pail closet buildings demolished and new W.C. buildings erected in suitable positions.
3398	3	Three pail closet buildings demolished and new W.C. buildings erected. Drains of one house taken up and relaid.
3753	5	Manholes, ventilating shaft provided, and drainage reconstructed.
3733	7	Ditto ditto.

Ref. No. in Register	No. of Houses	Particulars of Work
3684-3686	14	Passage drain taken up and reconstructed, together with manholes and ventilating shaft.
3861-3863	7	Seven pail closet buildings demolished and new W.C. buildings erected. Increased yard space provided. Sanitary ashbins provided in lieu of old ashtubs.
2322	1	House drain taken up and reconstructed ; manhole and ventilating shaft provided.
3537	17	17 dilapidated pail closets and ashplaces demolished and new W.C. buildings erected. Increased yard space provided ; yards paved and yard walls rebuilt ; old ashtubs replaced by sanitary ashbins.
—	2	Two pail closet buildings and urinal demolished and new W.C. buildings erected, manhole and ventilating shaft provided.
3946-3947	16	New passage drain constructed with manholes and ventilating shafts.
3909	6	Six pail closets and ashplaces demolished and new W.C. buildings erected ; drains made accessible and ventilated ; ashtubs replaced by sanitary ashbins.
3538	21	21 pail closets demolished and new W.C. buildings erected ; passage drain made accessible and ventilated ; ashplaces demolished and sanitary ashbins provided.
3660	2	Two wooden erections used as pail closets demolished and new W.C. buildings erected ; whole of drainage reconstructed and manhole provided.

CONVERSION OF JOINT PAIL CLOSETS.

Improvement Work carried out contemporarily with Work of Conversion.

Reference	No. of Houses affected	No. of Pail Closets	No. of Water-Closets provided	No. of Ashbins provided	Particulars of Scheme of Improvement
3941 3942	4	2	4	4	Two pail closet buildings demolished and four new W.C. buildings erected ; ashtubs replaced by sanitary ashbins ; 30ft. drainage reconstructed, manholes and ventilation shaft provided.
3937 3938 3939	20	10	12	20	Ten pail closet buildings demolished and new W.C. buildings erected in suitable positions ; ashtubs replaced by sanitary ashbins ; two new manholes provided ; portion old drain reconstructed.
3927 3928 3929	12	5	9	12	Five pail closet buildings demolished and new W.C. buildings erected in suitable positions ; ashtubs replaced by sanitary ashbins.
3920 3921 3922 3923 3924 3925 3926	45	17	24	24	17 pail closet buildings demolished and new W.C. buildings erected in suitable positions ; ashtubs replaced by sanitary ashbins ; 30ft. drainage reconstructed, manhole and ventilation shaft provided.
3917	12	4	6	12	Four pail closet buildings demolished and new W.C. buildings erected in suitable positions ; ashtubs replaced by sanitary ashbins.
3913 3914	10	6	10	10	Four pail closet buildings pulled down ; two existing pail closets repaired and converted ; eight new W.C. buildings built in to houses with approach from outside ; open ashplaces replaced by galvanized iron ashbins.

Reference	No. of Houses affected	No. of Pail Closets	No. of Water-Closets provided	No. of Ashbins provided	Particulars of Scheme of Improvement
	9	3	6	9	Three pail closets demolished ; six new W.C. buildings erected in suitable positions ; ashtubs replaced by galvanized iron ashbins ; drainage reconstructed on modern principles, and all old drains taken out.
3908	7	2	7	7	Two pail closet buildings pulled down ; seven new W.C. buildings erected in suitable positions ; ashtubs replaced by sanitary ashbins.
3905	8	3	7	8	Three pail closet buildings pulled down ; seven new W.C. buildings erected in suitable positions ; ashtubs replaced by sanitary ashbins.
3650	8	3	7	8	Three pail closet buildings pulled down ; seven new W.C. buildings erected in suitable positions ; ashtubs replaced by sanitary ashbins.
	7	2	4	6	Two pail closets demolished ; four new water-closets built in suitable positions.
	12	2	6	6	Two pail closets demolished ; six new W.C.s built in suitable positions ; drainage reconstructed on modern principles and old drainage taken out ; insanitary cellar areas filled up to street level ; steps leading to houses repaired ; six slop-stone waste pipes renewed.
	6	4	6	6	Three pail closets repaired and converted ; one pail closet doorway re-arranged to give sufficient height ; two additional W.C.s provided ; drainage reconstructed on modern principles, and all old drains taken out.

Reference	No. of Houses affected	No. of Pail Closets	No. of Water-Closets provided	No. of Ashbins provided	Particulars of Scheme of Improvement
	13	6	13	13	Six pail closets demolished and 13 new W.C. buildings erected in suitable positions ; drainage reconstructed on modern principles and all old drains taken out.
3656	14	5	7	10	Five pail closets demolished and seven new W.C. buildings erected ; ashplace demolished and replaced by ashbins.
3919	3	2	3	3	Two pail closets converted and one additional W.C. erected ; drainage reconstructed on modern principles.
3931	8	4	8	6	Four pail closets converted and four additional W.C.s erected.
	5	2	5	5	Two pail closets demolished and five new W.C. buildings erected in suitable positions ; drainage reconstructed on modern principles.
	9	3	9	9	Three pail closets demolished and nine new W.C. buildings erected in suitable positions ; drainage reconstructed on modern principles.
	8	4	8	8	Four pail closets demolished and eight new W.C. buildings erected in suitable positions ; drainage reconstructed on modern principles.
	3	2	3	3	Two pail closets demolished and three new W.C. buildings erected in suitable positions ; drainage reconstructed on modern principles ; separate flagged yards provided.

Sanitary Inspection of District.

During 1924, 261 preliminary written or verbal notices and 38 statutory notices for the abatement of nuisances, and the remedy of sanitary defects in and around dwellings were served on owners and occupiers, and much good work, as shown in the statement below, has been accomplished.

Statement of the Removal of Nuisances in and around dwellings.

NATURE OF WORK DONE							Nos.
HOUSES—							
Houses limewashed and cleansed	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Houses repaired—walls and ceilings	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
floors	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
roofs	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Water removed from cellars	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Houses rendered dry—walls and ceilings	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Light and ventilation improved	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Cases of overcrowding remedied	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
House walls and ceilings replastered	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
General house fittings repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
House chimneys repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Coal sheds erected in lieu of coal cellars	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
ACCUMULATIONS—							
Offensive accumulations removed	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Stagnant water removed	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Building accumulations removed	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
CLOSETS—							
Pail closets repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Closets cleansed and limewashed	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Water-closets repaired or altered	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Additional closets provided—previously insufficient	..	..	..	..	..	..	91
(For pail closets converted see under conversion of pail closets)							
ASHPLACES—							
Ashplaces abolished	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Ashplaces repaired or reconstructed	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Additional ashplaces or ashbins provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Ashbins repaired or reconstructed	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
(See also under Separate and Joint Pail Closet Conversions under Conversion Scheme)							
DRAINS—							
Main drains reconstructed	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Main drains extended	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Drains repaired only	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Drains opened and cleansed	..	..	..	..	..	..	41
Branch drains reconstructed	..	..	..	..	..	..	71
Inspection chambers provided to old drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Ventilation shafts repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
WASTE-PIPES, ETC.—							
Kitchen waste-pipes disconnected from drains	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Kitchen waste-pipes trapped or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Kitchen waste-pipes unstopped	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Rain-water pipes unstopped	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Rain-water pipes repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Rain-water pipes disconnected from drains	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Eaves-troughing repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Urinal abolished	..	..	..	..	..	..	4

NATURE OF WORK DONE	Nos.
YARDS AND PASSAGES—	
Back yard surfaces repaired	3
Back yard surfaces cleansed	1
Back yard walls repaired	22
Yard spaces increased	27
Separate back yards provided	3
ANIMALS AND EFFLUVIA—	
Removal of animals and fowls improperly kept	2
Waste oil from gas engine	1
WATER SUPPLY—	
New water supply provided	1
Water service repaired.. .. .	1
CARAVANS—	
Absence of sanitary accommodation	2
Absence of water supply	1
GENERAL—	
Obstructive buildings removed	2
Unsuitable premises for baking discontinued	1
Insanitary areas filled up	6
Midden steads abolished	2
Midden steads repaired	2
NOTE.—See also under Factory and Workshops Acts, Additional works in connection with conversion, etc.	

Dairies and Cowsheds.

The number of Cowsheds on the Register at the end of 1924 was 57. These have been regularly inspected. The number of visits paid by the Dairy Inspector to the farms situate in the Borough was 71.

The following defects were found and remedied :—

Cowsheds requiring limewashing	14
Cowsheds refloored and drained	2
Farm buildings reconstructed	1

Milk Shops.

The number of Milk Shops on the Register at the end of 1924 was 99. The number of inspections made was 120.

Inspection of Premises used for the Preparation and Sale of Foodstuff.

The inspection of all premises used for the preparation of foodstuffs has received constant attention. During the year 7 of these premises have been discontinued on notice by the Inspector. Notices have been served in respect of 15 others for limewashing and cleansing. The number of inspections made of these premises was 1927.

Meat and Food Supply.

The foodstuffs coming into the Borough during 1924, taken collectively, show a fairly high standard of quality.

The number of recognised Slaughter-houses within the Borough is 18. Of this number, 4 are registered and 14 are licensed annually.

Foodstuffs seized or surrendered and destroyed as unfit for human food.

Disease or Condition							No. of Animals Affected	Weight in lbs.
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	97	21,476
Septicæmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	7,388
Abscesses	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	150
Pericarditis	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	162
Dropsy	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	1,552
Cirrhosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	71	710
Imperfect Bleeding	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	1,878
Died in Transit	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	2,100
Frozen Meat (Unsound)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2228
Actinomycosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	140
Unwholesome	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,026
Fruit and Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,167
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	614
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,332
Foot and Mouth Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,732
Total Weight—22 tons 3 cwt. 1 st. 12 lbs.								

Offensive Trades.

The number of premises at which these trades are now carried on in this Borough is as follows :—

Tripe Boiling	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Gut Scraping	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Fellmonger	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Knacker's Yard	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

The number of visits made to these premises during the year was 74.

Rat and Mice Destruction Act, 1920.

During the year 59 visits have been made to premises regarding which complaints have been received under the above Act. The premises dealt with under this Order are comprised of Slaughter-houses, Dwelling-houses and Shops.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

228 samples of food and drugs have been taken in connection with these Acts, as against 210 in 1923. Of these 228 samples 192 were formal and 36 informal.

The following is a list of the samples taken :—

Description	Number taken		Result of Analysis	
	Form-ally	Inform-ally	Genuine	Adul-terated
Milk	186	8	184	10
Skimmed Milk	3	..	3	..
Butter	1	5	6	..
Coffee .. .. .	..	1	1	..
Lard	1	4	5	..
Pepper .. .. .	..	3	3	..
Ground Ginger .. .. .	..	1	1	..
Flour .. .. .	..	1	1	..
Margarine	1	..	1	.
Gravy Browning .. .. .	.	1	1	..
Pills .. .. .	..	2	2	..
Vinegar .. .. .	..	1	1	..
Ground Rice .. .. .	..	1	1	..
Cream .. .. .	..	3	3	..
Hiera Picra .. .. .	..	1	1	..
Lard Compound .. .. .	..	1	1	..
Suet .. .. .	..	3	3	..
	192	36	218	10
TOTAL, 1924	228		228	

Of the 10 samples reported as adulterated one was taken informally, and 4 of the others were only slightly adulterated. With regard to the remaining 5, proceedings were instituted as given in Table below :—

No.	Date of Hearing	Offence	Result
88	1924 May 14	Selling Milk 16 per cent. defi- cient in fat	Fined £5, Analyst's Fee and Costs.
30	March 7	Selling Milk 30 per cent. defi- cient in fat	Fined £1, Analyst's Fee and Costs.
42	March 7	Selling Milk containing 22.7 per cent. added water ..	Case dismissed (Warranty)
107	Aug. 13	Selling Milk 11 per cent. defi- cient in fat	Fined £10, Analyst's Fee and Costs.
154	Sept. 10	Selling Milk 15 per cent defi- cient in fat	Fined £3, Analyst's Fee and Costs.

The full analysis of the milk samples in connection with which proceedings were taken is given in the following Table :—

No.	Percentage of			Extent of Adulteration
	Fatty Solids	Non-fatty Solids	Water	
88	2.52	8.41	89.07	16 per cent. deficient in fat.
30	..	..	..	30 per cent. deficient in fat
42	2.55	6.57	90.88	22.7 per cent. extraneous water
107	2.67	8.32	89.01	11 per cent. deficient in fat
154	2.55	8.81	88.64	15 per cent. deficient in fat

Milk and Cream Regulations.

3 samples of cream were submitted for analysis under these regulations, and found to be free from preservatives.

Of the 197 samples of milk also submitted for analysis only 1 contained a preservative equal to about 0.038 Boric Acid. The vendor appeared before the Health Committee and was cautioned.

BLACK SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The recorded observations during 1924 number 186, as against 170 in 1923. The observations were for one half-hour each, and were confined to 73 chimneys in the Borough.

The time limits for the issue of dense black smoke fixed by the Council were exceeded on 7 occasions, or once for every 26 observations taken. Legal proceedings were instituted on 2 occasions.

The number of times when the issue of moderately dense smoke (as distinguished from dense black smoke) exceeded ten minutes in the half-hour, and where special letters were sent was 21.

The time limit fixed by the Council, and revised in September, 1920, are as follows :—

- (1) Chimneys with two or three boilers working—2 minutes.
- (2) Chimneys with four or more boilers working—3 minutes.

Corporation Hospital Staffs.

		Matron	Sisters	Nurses	Domestic Staff	Total
Marland Hospital	...	1	3	17	18	39
Springfield Hospital	...	1	3	9	11	24
Wolstenholme Hall Sanatorium	...	1	1	5	11	18
		3	7	31	40	81

The following Table gives particulars of the issue of black smoke on the 7 occasions mentioned :—

	No. of Observations	Total Issue in minutes	Aver. No. of mins. per observation	Aver. No. of mins. per boiler	No. of Cases in which Smoke-preventing appliances were		
					In use	Partly in use	Not in use
1, 2 or 3 Boilers working	6	28½	4.75	3.65	2	..	4
4 or more Boilers working	1	4	4.0	0.8	..	1	..

The next Table presents the results of legal proceedings taken :—

No.	Date of Hearing	Offence	Result
1	April 9	Failing to comply with Order made November 4th, 1908	Fined 10/- and Costs
2	Sept. 10	Failing to comply with Order made January 5th, 1922	Fined 10/- and Costs

In the 5 remaining cases notices for abatement of nuisance were served.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACTS.

Retail Bakehouses.

The number of bakehouses now on the Register is 190. The number of inspections made was 180; cleansing and limewashing was carried out on intimation from Inspector in 28 cases. In 3 cases structural defects were remedied.

A high standard of cleanliness has been generally maintained as usual, and it has not been found necessary to issue any statutory notices in this respect.

Workshops.

40 inspections of workshops (as distinguished from workshop bakehouses) have been carried out during the year, and in 7 cases the sanitary arrangements have been improved.

See Table III., page 41, appendix, for full particulars of inspections under these Acts.

CANAL BOATS ACT.

No Canal Boats were inspected during the year.

9.—HOUSING.

Number of new Houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total	59
(b) With State assistance under Housing Acts 1919—1923 :—	
(i.) By the Local Authority	14
(ii.) By other bodies or persons	29
(c) By private enterprise without State assistance	16

1.—Unfit Dwelling-houses.**Inspection—**

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts) ..	268
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	Nil

2.—Remedy of Defects without Service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	Nil
---	-----

3.—Action under Statutory Powers.

A.—Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—	
(a) By Owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ..	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	Nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	783
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—	
(a) By Owners	285
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ..	Nil

C.—Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909—

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,



Medical Officer of Health, and
Chief School Medical Officer.

TOWN HALL,
ROCHDALE.
30th May, 1925.

LIST OF ADOPTED ACTS, BYE-LAWS, &c., IN FORCE IN THE BOROUGH.

Adopted Acts.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 (Parts 2, 3, 4, 5).

The Notification of Births Act, 1907.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 :—

Sections adopted—

Sections 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 32 and 33 comprised in Part II. ;

Sections 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 45, 46, 49, 50 and 51 comprised in Part III ;

Sections 52, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 67 and 68 comprised in Part IV. ;

Part V. ; and

Part VI. ;

Sections 78, 79, 81, 85, in Part VII. ;

Sections 88 and 89 in Part VIII.

Bye-Laws.

NUISANCES (1912)—

For the prevention of nuisances arising from snow, filth, dust, ashes, and rubbish, and for the prevention of the keeping of animals on any premises so as to be injurious to health.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES (1885)—

For the Licensing, Registering, Inspection and Regulation of Places used as Slaughter-houses.

Regulations.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, MILKSHOPS (1911)—

- (a) For the Inspection of Cattle in Dairies.
- (b) For prescribing and regulating the Lighting, Ventilation, Cleansing, Drainage and Water Supply of Cowsheds and Dairies in the occupation of persons following the trade of Cowkeepers or Dairymen.
- (c) For securing the Cleanliness of Milkshops and of Milk Vessels used for containing milk for sale by persons following the trade of Cowkeepers or Dairymen.
- (d) For Prescribing Precautions to be taken by Purveyors of Milk and Persons Selling Milk by retail against infection or contamination.

TABLE I.
NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE
during the years 1919 to 1924.

Disease	Years					Annual Average		1924
	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	5 yrs.	5 yrs.	
						1914-18	1919-23	
Compulsorily Notifiable—								
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1.0	...	...
Scarlet Fever	117	274	368	502	421	159.6	336.4	248
Diphtheria (incl. Mem. Croup) ...	98	79	69	88	80	240.6	82.8	77
Typhoid Fever (incl. Continued Fever and Para Typhoid Fever)	4	8	3	3	9	12.8	5.4	12
Puerperal Fever	2	8	3	2	2	4.8	3.4	3
Erysipelas	44	28	36	31	22	57.6	32.2	26
†Acute Poliomyelitis	1	..	...	...	3	1.4	0.8	...
†Cerebro Spinal Fever	3	..	...	1	1	0.6	1.0	1
†Ophthalmia Neonatorum	17	16	19	12	14	19.4	15.6	13
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	381	192	191	108	125	186.2	199.4	76
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	63	45	34	51	55	88.8	49.6	35
*Malaria	59	9	7	1	2	...	15.6	1
*Dysentery	5	1	..	...	...	...	1.2	...
*Trench Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
*Acute Enceph. Lethargica ...	1	2	2	...	...	...	1.0	13
*Pneumonia	102	43	42	62	36	...	57.0	58
Not Compulsorily Notifiable—								
Whooping Cough	108	79	17	195	81	209.8	96.0	22
Chicken-pox	127	223	117	123	201	177.8	158.2	300
Measles	1180	353	276	478	88	1226.6	475.0	859
TOTAL	2312	1360	1184	1657	1140	2386.6	1530.6	1744

*Compulsorily notifiable since March 1st, 1919.

†Compulsorily notifiable from September 1st, 1912.

TABLE II.

INFANT MORTALITY.—Nett Deaths from stated causes at various
Ages under one year of age.

CAUSE OF DEATH			Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
All Causes	Certified ...	...	34	7	7	3	51	22	14	10	16	113
	Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	3	5
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	3
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Convulsions	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2
Bronchitis	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2	2	1	4	10
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	3	4	3	2	13
Other Diseases of Resp. Organs.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	3
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	2
Other Dis. of Digestive System	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	2
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	1	...	...	4
Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation (overlying)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformation	...	...	4	1	2	2	9	3	...	...	2	14
Premature Birth	...	...	21	2	1	...	24	3	...	...	...	27
Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus..	...	...	2	...	...	1	3	3	3	...	1	10
Other Diseases of Early Infancy	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	3
Other Causes	...	...	1	2	2	...	5	...	2	2	1	10
TOTAL	...	...	34	7	7	3	51	22	14	10	16	113

Nett Births in the year :—Legitimate 1,364 ; Illegitimate 87.

Nett Deaths in the year :—Legitimate infants 99 ; Illegitimate infants 14.

TABLE III.
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.
(HOME OFFICE RETURN.)

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Prosecutions (4)
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries)	10	5	—
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries)	220	33	—
WORKPLACES (Other than Outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
TOTAL	230	38	—

2—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecu- tions (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
NUISANCES UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS—				
Want of cleanliness	28	28	—	—
Want of Ventilation	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	1	1	—	—
Other nuisances	4	3	—	—
Sanitary accommodation—				
Insufficient	2	1	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	10	4	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
OFFENCES UNDER THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	—	—	—	—
Other offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Sched- ule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Tran- fer of Powers) Order, 1921.)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	46	38	—	—

TABLE IV.

SPRINGFIELD MATERNITY AND CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.
Statistical Report of Cases dealt with during year ended 31st Dec-
ember, 1924.

Number of cases delivered by (a) Midwives ..	137
(b) Doctors ..	11

Number of cases in which medical assistance was sought by the Midwife with reasons for requiring assistance :—

(a) ANTE-NATAL—

Cardiac Disease	2
Albuminuria	3
Oedema of legs	1
General Debility	4
Hæmorrhage	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2
Hydramnios	1
Colitis	1
Bronchitis	1
Abortion	1
Eclampsia	2
Syphilis	2
Induction of labour	8

(b) DURING LABOUR—

Forceps delivery	5
Ruptured perineum	10
Placenta prævia	1
Adherent placenta	1
Retained membranes	1
Post partum hæmorrhage	4
Malpresentation	2
Prolapse of cord	1
Contracted pelvis	2

(c) AFTER LABOUR—

Rise of temperature	6
Subinvolution	4
Phlebitis	2
Puerperal melancholia	1

(d) FOR INFANT—

Rise of temperature	1
Dangerous feebleness	10
Pemphigus	3
Congenital malformations	3
Slight discharge from eyes	6
Cephalhæmatoma	1
Asphyxia	3
Convulsions	3

Number of cases notified as ophthalmia neonatorum ..	Nil
Number of cases of discharge from eyes, however slight..	6
Number of cases notified as puerperal sepsis ..	Nil
Number of cases in which temperature rose above 100.4°F. for 24 hours with rise of pulse rate	5

Number of infants not entirely breast fed whilst in the Institution	10
Reasons—	
(1) Mother's milk insufficient in quantity	7
(2) Mother suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis	2
(3) Inverted nipples and scanty secretion	1
Number of Maternal deaths	Nil
Number of Foetal deaths (i.e., still-born or died within 10 days of birth)	15
Causes—	
Twins (premature)	2
Antepartum hæmorrhage	1
Mother had acute hydramnios and baby premature and asphyxiated	1
Still-born, macerated foetus—cause unknown	2
Premature twin—imperforate anus	1
Prolapse of cord	2
Mother had eclampsia (did not attend ante-natal clinic)	1
Difficult forceps delivery—contracted pelvis	1
Convulsions—unhealthy baby, died when 41 hours old (? congenital syphilis but mother's W.R. negative)	1
Convulsions on second day—normal delivery, healthy baby. Post mortem examination—intracranial hæmorrhage	1
Convulsions—died on fifth day—(very difficult delivery). Post mortem—intracranial hæmorrhage	1
Miscarriage at fourth month—due to rapidly succeeding pregnancies	1

Infants' and Children's Wards.

Remaining in hospital January 1st, 1924	16
Admitted during the year	95
Readmissions	5
Actual number of children treated	106
Number of cases discharged during 1924—	
(a) In good health	38
(b) Improved in health	40
(c) Unimproved	6
Deaths during the year	12
Remaining in hospital December 31st, 1924	15
Reasons for admission—	
Admitted with mother to promote breast feeding	1
Prematurity and failure to thrive	8
Chronic Dyspepsia and Marasmus	13
Slight Dyspepsia	3
Congenital Pyloric Stenosis	1
Acetonæmia	1
Rickets and Malnutrition	18
Anæmia, Debility, Adenitis, etc.	9
Bronchiectasis	2

Bronchitis	3
Broncho-pneumonia	3
Backward children	2
Chronic Eczema	2
Ecthyma	1
Corneal Ulcers	1
Congenital Syphilis	3
Gonorrhoeal Valvo-vaginitis	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.. .. .	2
Minor surgical cases	9
Tuberculosis—	
Suspected	4
Peritonitis	1
Glands.. .. .	1
	<hr/> 6
For care during illness of mother	4
Ages of the children on admission—	Boys Girls
Under three months	12 7
Three to six months	6 10
Six to twelve months	6 5
Twelve to eighteen months	11 8
Eighteen months to two years	4 3
Two to three years	8 2
Three to four years	1 4
Four to five years.. .. .	5 3
	<hr/> 53 42

There have been two small outbreaks of infectious disease this year—4 cases of Measles in August and September, and 7 cases of Valvo-vaginitis in little girls in the first six months of the year. One child was transferred to Marland Hospital thought to be suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Deaths amongst babies admitted for illness	12
	Period of residence
Cause	in hospital
Malnutrition and profound anæmia	92 days
Marasmus and Influenza	10 days
Infantile Atrophy and Chronic Bronchitis	9 days
Infantile Atrophy and Congenital Syphilis	24 days
Broncho-pneumonia and Lung Abscess	1 day
Broncho-pneumonia and Congenital Syphilis	5 days
Status Lymphaticus (Premature twin baby)	165 days
Broncho-pneumonia and Prematurity	40 days
Broncho-pneumonia and Prematurity	42 days
Congenital Pyloric Stenosis	27 days
Premature Twin	18 hours
Premature Twin	3 hours

REPORT

ON THE

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF
SCHOOL CHILDREN.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF ROCHDALE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

I beg to submit the Seventeenth Annual Report of the Work of Medical Inspection of School Children in Rochdale during the year ended 31st December, 1924, which has been prepared by the Assistant School Medical Officer, Dr. Graham.

The assistance and co-operation rendered by Mr. J. E. Holden, the Education Secretary, and his Staff, in supplying information which has been included in this report is gratefully acknowledged.

Staff.

The School Medical Staff consists of one Chief Medical Officer, one Assistant School Medical Officer, one Dental Officer and an Assistant, two School Nurses. In addition there is a part-time Ophthalmic Surgeon, who attends one hour per week.

Co-ordination.

The work of the School Medical Service is co-ordinated with that of the other health services under the Medical Officer of Health, who is Chief School Medical Officer.

- (a) Infant and Child Welfare is under the care of a separate full-time Officer, who is on the staff of the Public Health Department.
- (b) There are no nursery schools in the area of the Education Authority.
- (c) Debilitated children under school age attending school come directly under the care of the School medical service.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

School Hygiene.

During the year painting and decorating has been carried out at the following schools :—

Spotland	All Saints'
Derby Street	St. Mary's (Redcross Street)
Castleton (Juniors and Mixed)	St. James', Thornham

Improvements have been made in the sanitary accommodation in three schools :—

Heybrook	Baillie Street
Central School	

Electric lighting has been installed at :—

St. Mary's (Redcross Street)	St. Gabriel's
Cronkeyshaw	

The playgrounds have been repaired and asphalted at the following schools :

Castleton	Baillie Street
Newbold	Meanwood

Medical Inspection.

(a) Three age groups have been inspected :—" Entrants " (those who have attained five years of age) ; eight year olds ; and " Leavers " (or 12 year olds). Each school is visited twice annually for the purpose of inspection.

(b) The schedule of the Board (including the modifications issued in Circular 1,321, dated December 27th, 1923) has been followed in its entirety.

(c) In the majority of schools medical inspection takes place in one of the classrooms, thus necessitating two classes to be combined for the time. In 13 of the 29 schools, however, the teachers' room is used, thus causing no disturbance to school arrangements.

Findings of Medical Inspection.

Number of Inspections by Medical Officer at Schools	..	..	5,756
Number of Inspections by Medical Officer at Examination Clinic	..		1,518
Number of Inspections by Specialist at Eye Clinic	..	..	507
Number of Inspections by Dental Officer at Schools	..	..	6,502

Tonsils and Adenoids.

A large number of children have been found suffering from these defects. In cases selected for operative treatment the points considered were :—

- (1) The degree of enlargement.
- (2) The nature of the enlargement. Acute cases do not benefit by operation, and these were recommended for medical treatment.
- (3) The severity of the symptoms caused by the presence of enlarged tonsils and adenoids, e.g., mouth breathing, backward mental development and a weakened resistance to catarrhal infections.

The present scheme by which arrangements are made for the operations for the removal of tonsils and adenoids to be performed at the Infirmary by the Honorary Surgeons is very satisfactory. The treatment carried out in this way is most expeditious and efficient.

Tuberculosis.

Children presenting definite clinical signs of tuberculosis are seldom found during the routine inspections. Such clinical signs are usually absent until the disease has advanced to the degree of rendering the child unfit to attend school. The "pre-tubercular" child is unfortunately still common, and generally presents such symptoms as anæmia, malnutrition, deficient expansion of the chest, and often a functional disorder of the heart.

OPHTHALMIC SURGEON'S REPORT.

Vision.

501 children were referred for examination of their eyes and estimation of refraction, under the Local Education Authority's scheme. No treatment was considered necessary in 33 cases; in 7 treatment other than the wearing of glasses was advised. The majority, consisting of 448 children, received prescriptions to obtain glasses. Spectacles were provided for 363 children.

Those cases of squint in which operation is necessary are treated by the Ophthalmic Surgeon at the Rochdale Infirmary. 12 cases suffering from this condition were operated on during the year under review.

PHILIP A. HARRY, M.D., D.P.H.

DENTAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

SIR,

I beg to submit the report of the Dental Department for the year 1924. Every school has been visited and inspected twice during the year, and every child accepting treatment has had attention at the Clinic.

In conservative work, i.e., saving and filling the teeth, which is the most important duty of a Dental Officer, there has been an increase of 117.

There has been an enormous increase in the number of Casuals this year. 2,000 children have attended at the Clinic. I consider that this is evidence of the growing popularity of the Clinic, and that parents wish the children to take advantage of the treatment offered.

It will, however, be necessary to formulate a scheme for the treatment of routine cases and casuals on different occasions to prevent spending time on casuals to the detriment of the routine cases—as the routine patients are from six to nine years, and the casuals usually from ten to fourteen years.

I am pleased to say the children are improving very much in the cleanliness of the teeth. Dirty cases for all the schools now being only about 2 per cent., and several of the schools which were very bad have reduced their average considerably.

A. H. DERWENT, L.D.S., Eng.,
School Dental Surgeon.

Crippling Defects.

There are, unfortunately, numerous school children who suffer from crippling defects. Rickets and Tuberculosis of the bones and joints are primary causes.

The work of the Rochdale Crippled Children's Union in treating such cases continues to be very beneficial.

Infectious Diseases.

The number of cases of infectious diseases notified amongst school children during 1924 are shown in comparison with the figures for the previous year :—

				1923		1924
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	266	..	181
Diphtheria	..	..	..	40	..	43
Measles	..	..	..	88	..	792
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	78	..	21
Chicken-pox	..	..	..	201	..	301

During the year two schools were thoroughly disinfected as the result of the prevalence of Measles in one instance and Scarlet Fever in the other. The disinfection was carried out during the week-end, the schools being closed from Thursday to Monday. Two other schools were also disinfected during week-ends without necessitating closure.

Under Article 53 (b) of the Code, 684 exclusion certificates were given.

Following Up.

The parents of children found suffering from physical defects are notified on Form M.I.4, and invited to attend the Clinic for advice as to treatment. If this is not taken advantage of the parents are visited by a School Nurse, who endeavours to persuade them to seek advice from their own medical practitioner or at the General Hospital. At a later date these cases are again visited to ascertain what has been done.

Children found in routine examination with such defects are placed on special lists and again seen at a subsequent visit to the school by the School Medical Officer.

Second notices are sent if nothing has been done. In the majority of cases the parents exhibit readiness in seeking advice, and recognise their obligations to their children in the matter of their health.

Medical Treatment.

(a) **Minor Ailments.**—There is a clinic five mornings per week for the treatment of minor ailments, at which the Assistant School Medical Officer and the School Nurses are in attendance. There is also one afternoon clinic per week for advice only, conducted by the Assistant School Medical Officer.

The School Clinics continue to be very popular. 1,518 children were seen by the Assistant School Medical Officer during the year.

At the Treatment Clinic 1,090 new cases were admitted ; 1,048 were discharged cured, while the number of visits paid by children to the Clinic amounted to 9,717.

(b) **Tonsils and Adenoids.**—Advice regarding the treatment of these conditions is given at the Clinics. In those cases where operation is required the parents are notified by the School Medical Officer to obtain the advice of their own medical practitioner, or are referred direct to the General Infirmary under the scheme of the Education Authority.

These cases are followed up by the School Nurses, and all cases operated upon come up to the Clinic for examination in one month's time. Where treatment has been neglected a second notice is sent and another visit paid by the School Nurse.

(c) **Goitre** (simple enlargement of the Thyroid Gland).—A special monthly clinic was started in May, 1924, for the purpose of treating this condition. 59 children have attended, and very small doses of Potassium Iodide have been administered to them in tablet form. The condition is most commonly found amongst the 12 year old children, though occasionally amongst the intermediate group, i.e., 8 year olds.

At the request of the Board of Education—Medical Branch—note was taken during the course of medical inspection of the number of children at the age of 12 years in whom the thyroid gland was sufficiently enlarged for the increase in the size of the neck to be noticed on casual inspection (without measurement or palpation). Result as follows :—

(a) Boys—Age 12 years—

Number examined	707
Number enlarged Thyroid	34 .. (4.8 per cent.)

(b) Girls—age 12 years—

Number examined	749
Number enlarged Thyroid	94 .. (12.5 per cent.)

Of the 59 children who have had treatment 33 have shown no further enlargement during the period of treatment ; 15 show a decrease in neck measurement and in 11 of the cases an increase varying from .2 to .8 of an inch. The clinic, which is conducted by the Assistant School Medical Officer, is to be continued next year.

(d) **Tuberculosis.**—The pre-tubercular child and cases showing the earlier signs of Tuberculosis, but still non-infectious, are admitted to the open-air school as vacancies occur. Cases in which the disease is more advanced are considered in consultation with the Tuberculosis Medical Officer. Most of

these have received treatment at the Stannington Sanatorium for Children, at Morpeth, and 19 children have been in residence there during the year. Of these 19 cases : 7 are still in residence ; 6 have been discharged as cured, and are in attendance at the ordinary elementary schools ; 3 are attending the open-air day school ; while 2 are now over school age and have obtained " full time " certificates. Unfortunately one advanced case had to be transferred from Stannington to Marland Tuberculosis Hospital, where death occurred.

(e) **Skin Disease.**—Impetigo and Ringworm are the most prevalent diseases of the skin. These are treated either at the clinic, or at home when circumstances do not permit their attendance at the clinic. Obstinate cases of Ringworm requiring X-Ray treatment are referred to the General Infirmary.

(f) **External Eye Disease.**—Treatment is carried out at the daily clinics. Blepharitis and Conjunctivitis are the common ailments.

(g) **Vision.**—Cases of defective vision requiring correction are referred to the Ophthalmic Surgeon for refraction.

(h) **Ear Disease and Hearing.**—Minor troubles are treated at the Clinic under the supervision of the Assistant School Medical Officer. Cases requiring further treatment are sent to the General Infirmary under the scheme of the Education Authority.

(i) **Dental Defects.**—There is a full-time Dental Officer who carries out routine inspection and treatment of dental defects.

(j) **Crippling Defects and Orthopædics.**—Children, suffering from crippling defects are referred to the Rochdale Crippled Children's Union, who receive suitable cases in their Home at Norden for operation and treatment.

Open-air Education.

(a) **Playground Classes.**—Nil.

(b) **School Journeys.**—School journeys into the country for nature studies are regarded as an effective means of promoting education. As the approval of the arrangements made by the teachers for every journey is obtained from H.M. Inspector of Schools before the day is fixed it may be assumed that they are satisfactory.

(c) **School Camps.**—Nil.

(d) **Open-air Classrooms.**—Nil.

(e) **Open-air Day School.**—Greenbank Open-air Day School has continued to serve a useful purpose during the past year, and 122 children have been in attendance. Of these 122 children, 62 were suffering from Cervical Adenitis, bad nutrition and loss of weight, and were classified of the pre-

tubercular type, 40 were suffering from Anæmia and general debility, and 20 from various forms of heart disease.

The average gain in weight over a period of six months was 3lbs. 9ozs. in the case of the girls, and 3lbs. 12ozs. in the case of the boys.

Early in the following year, 1925, Green Bank will cease to be used as an Open-air Day School, and Brown Hill Open-air Day School will take its place.

Here we have a combination of the antique and modern. A fine old locally historic mansion on an ideal site will serve for administrative and domestic purposes, while the school itself has been built and equipped on the most approved principles of the open-air day school.

Physical Training.

There are three physical instructors, two whole-time and one part-time. These instructors treat special cases referred to them by the School Medical Officer and report to him any cases requiring treatment.

Provision of Meals.

312 children have been provided with meals during the year. 94,980 meals being served. The numbers still keep large owing to so much unemployment, and an increase in the number of meals provided is shown this year.

School Baths.

During the summer season all schools send scholars (boys and girls) to the Baths for swimming practice. One school has slipper baths. No shower baths for cleansing scholars in large numbers are provided within the area.

Co-operation of Parents.

Before the routine medical inspection of children the parents are notified by the teachers of the approaching examination, and are invited to be present. This year there has been a considerable increase in the number of parents in attendance at the medical inspection at the schools, which is significant of the growing interest that is being taken in the work.

In regard to the subsequent treatment of any defects found, parents are notified regarding :—defective vision, marked enlargement of tonsils, organic heart disease, and conditions which require medical treatment apart from the treatment provided by the clinic for minor ailments.

Defective Vision.

These cases are notified to the parents on a Special Form M.I.6, which is sent to the school to be taken by the child to its parents.

This form requests the parents to bring the child to a clinic by the Ophthalmic Surgeon, or in the event of their being unable to attend, to give notice by writing that they are unwilling that the examination be made and the necessary drops used.

Tonsils and Adenoids.

The co-operation of the parents in the treatment of these defects has been outlined previously. Though there is occasionally some delay in seeking treatment, there are very few cases in which it is absolutely neglected.

Heart Disease.

In cases of serious disease of the heart and circulation the parents are visited by the School Nurse, who endeavours to advise the parents regarding the seriousness of the condition and persuade them to consult a medical practitioner, who can keep the child under observation.

The Special Form M.I.5 is sent to parents in all these cases, inviting them to attend the afternoon clinic, where they receive advice from the Assistant School Medical Officer.

All along the co-operation of the parents is solicited, and the means adopted generally meet with success.

Co-operation of Teachers.

Medical Inspection.—The teachers inform the parents of the inspection, enter the child's age and the date of inspection on the card and take heights and weights.

Following up.—Children requiring treatment at the clinic are notified to the teacher, who sees that they attend regularly.

Medical Treatment.—Children are referred by the teachers to the clinic for treatment. Those suffering from skin disease, wounds or obvious illness form the majority of cases. The teachers are sometimes able to give histories of the children, which are useful in regard to further treatment.

Following up in Cases of Defective Vision.—Where parents neglect either to procure the glasses prescribed for their child or to make a statement regarding their income so that glasses may be provided free of charge, a notice is sent to the parents informing them that they are liable to a penalty through neglect of proper care of their child's health. The parent is then summoned to appear before the School Attendance Committee if nothing is done after receiving the notice. Occasionally, cases neglecting to provide glasses have been referred to the N.S.P.C.C.

Co-operation of School Attendance Officers.—Children who are unfit for attendance at school and under treatment at the daily clinics are referred to the Attendance Officer when regular attendance is not made. The Attendance Officers also refer to the School Medical Officer certain cases of absence where illness is given as a reason but no medical certificate is produced. These cases

are seen by the School Medical Officer and a certificate of fitness or unfitness for attendance at school is given. The work of the medical service and the Attendance Officers is further co-ordinated by the fact that a duplicate of all certificates is sent to the Officer concerned, another to the Teacher, and the original is retained by the School Medical Officer.

Co-operation of Voluntary Bodies.—Children requiring medical treatment are occasionally referred to the School Medical Officer by Inspectors of N.S.P.C.C. Cases in which the School Medical Officer considers that there is neglect at home are referred to the N.S.P.C.C., and during the year three children have received treatment at the Manchester Children's Hospital by the help of this Society. These children remain under the observation of the Society.

In regard to medical treatment the Rochdale Crippled Children's Union undertakes the care and treatment of deformed and crippled children at their Home at Norden. Suitable cases are referred by the School Medical Officer for treatment.

Blind, Deaf, Defective and Epileptic Children.

Children who are found to be blind or deaf to such a degree as to be unsuitable for attendance at an ordinary school are sent to special institutions. There are no such institutions maintained in the educational area.

In the care of the blind, after certification by the Ophthalmic Surgeon, these children are sent to various institutions, the cost of their maintenance being borne by the Education Authority. Parents whose circumstances permit contribute towards this cost.

In a similar way deaf children are maintained at various places.

There is no Special School for Defective and Epileptic Children. When such are found, after examination by the School Medical Officer, their case is transmitted to the Manchester Education Authority for admission to their homes.

During the year one child has been admitted to each of the following homes :—

Sandlebridge

Soss Moss

Royal Albert Institution, Lancaster

The means provided have always proved adequate with the exception that epileptic children suffering from complications are not received. No means

are provided for dealing with such cases. They either remain in attendance at the Elementary Schools, or, where certified as being unfit to attend, they remain at home.

There is no After-care Committee in Rochdale.

The Secondary School.

The Secondary School came under the Authority's scheme of medical inspection and treatment in 1920. Similar provision is made for it as for the Elementary Schools.

Continuation Schools.

No Medical Service has been arranged for Evening Schools. There are no Day Continuation Schools.

Employment of Children and Young Persons.

No children under 14 years of age can now be employed. The half-time system of employment has been ended.



Medical Officer of Health and
Chief School Medical Officer.

TOWN HALL,

ROCHDALE.

20th April, 1925.

TABLE I.

Return of Medical Inspections, 1st January to 31st December, 1924.

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Code Group Inspections—						Elementary Schools	Secondary Schools
Entrants	..	..	..	..	..	1362	106
Intermediates	..	..	..	..	..	1066	257
Leavers	..	..	..	..	..	1459	46
Total	..	..	..	..	..	3887	409

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	2496	—
Number of Re-inspections	..	..	..	..	..	2972	—
Total	..	..	..	..	..	5468	Nil.

TABLE II.

A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year ended 31st December, 1924.

Defect or Disease (1)						Routine Inspections				Special Inspections			
						No. of Defects				No. of Defects			
						Requiring treatment (2)		Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment (3)		Requiring treatment (4)		Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment. (5)	
						E.	S.	E.	S.	E.	E.		
Malnutrition						5	..	..	..	3	..
Uncleanliness (See Table IV., Group V.)						41	..	..	..	65	..
Skin	Ringworm—												
	Scalp					8	..	..	..	37	..
	Body					2	..	..	..	48	..
	Scabies .. .. .					..	..	..	..	..	..
	Impetigo					12	..	..	..	161	..
Other Diseases (non-Tuberculous) ..						2	..	..	..	145	..

TABLE II.—(continued).

					E.	S.	E.	S.	E.	E.
Eye	{	Blepharitis	8	I	..	..	46	..	..	..
		Conjunctivitis	3	..	..	..	29	..	..	..
		Keratitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	I	..	..	..
		Corneal Opacities	4	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
		Defective Vision (excluding Squint) ..	294	85	8	..	289	..	..	..
		Squint	19	..	..	..	21	2	..	..
		Other Conditions	I	..	..	..	18	..	..	..
Ear	{	Defective Hearing .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3	I	..	..
		Otitis Media	9	..	..	..	49	..	..	..
		Other Ear Diseases	3	I	..	..	69	..	..	..
Nose and Throat	{	Enlarged Tonsils only	70	2	16	..	21	2	..	..
		Adenoids only	4	..	4	..	13	6	..	..
		Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	8	..	..	..	13	I	..	..
		Other Conditions	I	..	..	..	49	I	..	..
Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous)			..	..	..	..	88	..	..	..
Defective Speech			9	..	..	..	I	I	..	..
Teeth—Dental Diseases										
(see Table IV., Group IV.)										
Heart and Circulation	{	Heart Disease—								
		Organic	3	..	125	9	5	17	..	..
		Functional	2	..	42	23	I	10	..	..
		Anæmia .. .. .	..	4	9	6	35	I	..	..
Lungs	{	Bronchitis	8	I	I	..	26	3	..	..
		Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases .. .. .	..	..	4	..	11	2	..	..
Tuberculosis	{	Pulmonary—								
		Definite	I	..	..	..	I	..	..	..
		Suspected .. .. .	..	..	29	3	16	4	..	..
		Non-pulmonary—								
		Glands .. .. .	..	..	..	..	9	I	..	..
		Spine .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Hip	I	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Other Bones and Joints .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3	2	..	..
		Skin .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nervous System	{	Other Forms	I	..	..	..	3	I	..	..
		Epilepsy .. .. .	..	..	I	..	4	2	..	..
		Chorea	2	..	I	..	8	..	..	..
Deformities	{	Other Conditions	3	..	..	..	9	5	..	..
		Rickets	2	3	I	..	I	..	..	..
		Spinal Curvature	I	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
Other Defects and Diseases			5	5	3	..	216	40	..	..

B.—Number of Individual Children found at Routine Medical Inspection to Require Treatment (excluding uncleanness and dental diseases).

Group	Number of Children				Percentage of Children found to require treatment (see note d)		
	Inspected		Found to require treatment				
Code Groups—	E.	S.	E.	S.	E.	S.	
Entrants	1362	106	75	} ..	5.5	} ..	
Intermediates	1066	257	161		90		15.1
Leavers	1459	46	306		..		20.9
Total (code groups) ..	3887	409	542	..	13.9	..	
Other routine inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..

E.—Elementary Schools. S.—Secondary Schools.

TABLE III.—Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.

			Boys	Girls	Total
Blind (including partially blind)	(i.) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally blind.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind Attending Public Elementary Schools At other Institutions .. At no School or Institution	..	I	I
	(ii.) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially blind.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind.. Attending Public Elementary Schools At other Institutions .. At no School or Institution	5	2 I	7 I
Deaf (including deaf and dumb and partially deaf)	(i.) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally deaf or deaf and dumb.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Deaf .. Attending Public Elementary Schools At other Institutions .. At no School or Institution	2	4	6
	(ii.) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially deaf.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Deaf .. Attending Public Elementary Schools At other Institutions .. At no School or Institution	2 .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	2
Mentally Defective	Feebleminded (cases not notifiable to the Local Control Authority.)	Attending Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children Attending Public Elementary Schools At other Institutions .. At no School or Institution	I II	I 9 .. 4	2 20 .. 4
	Notified to the Local Control Authority during the year.	Feebleminded Imbeciles Idiots .. ..	.. I ..	.. 2 ..	.. 3 ..
Epileptics	Suffering from severe epilepsy.	Attending Certified Special Schools for Epileptics .. In Institutions other than Certified Special Schools Attending Public Elementary Schools At no School or Institution	I .. I 2	I I .. I	2 I I 3
	Suffering from epilepsy which is not severe.	Attending Public Elementary Schools At no School or Institution	7 ..	3 ..	10 ..

			Boys	Girls	Total
Physically Defective	Infectious pulmonary and glandular tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board	6	3	9
		At other Institutions ..	..	1	1
		At no School or Institution	1	1	2
	Non-infectious but active pulmonary and glandular tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board .. .. .	..	..	..
		At Certified Residential Open-air Schools ..	..	..	..
		At Certified Day Open-air Schools	6	5	11
		At Public Elementary Schools	13	27	40
		At other Institutions ..	..	..	..
		At no School or Institution	6	10	16
	Delicate children (e.g., pre- or latent tuberculosis, malnutrition, debility, anæmia, etc.)	At Certified Residential Open-air Schools ..	1	1	2
		At Certified Day Open-air Schools	20	31	51
		At Public Elementary Schools	32	51	83
		At other Institutions ..	11	15	26
		At no School or Institution	..	..	..
	Active non-pulmonary tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Hospital Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board .. .. .	..	..	..
		At Public Elementary Schools	4	3	7
		At other Institutions ..	5	4	9
		At no School or Institution	4	5	9
	Crippled Children (other than those with active tuberculous disease), e.g., children suffering from paralysis, &c., and including those with severe heart disease.	At Certified Hospital Schools .. .. .	..	..	..
		At Certified Residential Cripple Schools	3	1	4
		At Certified Day Cripple Schools .. .. .	..	..	..
		At Public Elementary Schools	15	6	21
		At other Institutions ..	2	1	3
		At no School or Institution	..	..	..

TABLE IV.

Return of Defects Treated during the Year ended 31st December, 1924.

TREATMENT TABLE.

GROUP I.—Minor Ailments (excluding uncleanness, for which see Group V.).

Disease or Defect (1)	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year		
	Under the Authority's Scheme (2)	Otherwise (3)	Total (4)
SKIN—			
Ringworm—Scalp	48	..	48
Ringworm—Body	78	..	78
Scabies .. .. .	..	..	..
Impetigo	446	3	449
Other skin disease	175	3	178
MINOR EYE DEFECTS (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.).	164	4	168
MINOR EAR DEFECTS	247	3	250
MISCELLANEOUS (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)	777	3	780
TOTAL	1935	16	1951

TABLE IV.—(Continued).

GROUP II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.).

Defect or Disease (1)	Number of Defects dealt with			
	Under the Authority's Scheme (2)	Submitted to refraction by private practitioner or at hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme (3)	Otherwise (4)	Total (5)
Errors of Refractions including Squint). (Operations for Squint should be recorded separately in the body of the Report). ..	501	6	..	507
Other Defect or Disease of the eyes (including those recorded in Group I.)	6	..	1	7
Total	507	6	1	514

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed :—

(A) Under the Authority's Scheme	..	..	..	..	..	468
(B) Otherwise	..	..	..	..	..	6

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles :—

(A) Under the Authority's Scheme	..	..	..	..	..	363
(B) Otherwise	..	..	..	..	..	6

GROUP III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

Number of Defects.

Received Operative Treatment			Received other forms of Treatment	Total number treated
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital	By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme	Total		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
101	25	126	22	148

TABLE IV.—(Continued).

GROUP IV.—Dental Defects.

(1) Number of Children who were :—

(a) Inspected by the Dentist—

Aged—

Routine Age Groups	5.....	} Total 6421
	6..... 1897	
	7..... 2180	
	8..... 2344	
	9.....	
	10.....	
	11.....	
	12.....	
	13.....	
	14.....	

Specials 81

Grand Total 6502

(b) Found to require treatment during Inspection	..	..	2919
(c) Actually treated (including Casuals)	..	..	3481
(d) Re-treated during the year as the result of periodical examination	..	..	1084

(2) Half-days devoted to—Inspection	..	118			
Treatment	..	260	Total	..	378
(3) Attendances made by children for treatment	..		..	..	3521
(4) Fillings—Permanent teeth	..	966			
Temporary teeth	..	154	Total	..	1120
(5) Extractions Permanent teeth	..	273			
Temporary teeth	..	3577	Total	..	3850
(6) Administrations of Local anaesthetics for extractions	..		..	..	253
(7) Other operations .. Permanent teeth		371			
Temparary teeth		550	Total	..	921

GROUP V.—Uncleanliness and verminous conditions

(i.) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.6
(ii.) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	..	..	..	..	..	..	12024
(iii.) Number of individual children found unclean	..	..	..	..	..	..	744
(iv.) Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
(v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—							
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

